



Department of Medical Assistance Services
600 East Broad Street, Suite 1300
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www.dmas.virginia.gov

MEDICAID MEMO

TO: All Community Services Boards, Pre-Admission Screening providers Participating in the Virginia Medical Assistance Program, Managed Care Organizations, and holders of the Pre-Admission Screening Medicaid Provider Manual

FROM: Patrick W. Finnerty, Director
Department of Medical Assistance Services (DMAS)

MEMO: Special

DATE: 11/24/2008

SUBJECT: Removal of Requirement for Secondary Screenings for Waiver Recipients – Effective January 1, 2009

The purpose of this memorandum is to notify you of changes to the pre-admission screening program for certain Medicaid waiver services and the requirement of a secondary screening for Mental Illness, Mental Retardation/Intellectual Disabilities, and/or Related Conditions for waiver recipients.

Pursuant to the Governor's Fiscal Year 2009 Budget Reduction Plan, the Department of Medical Assistance Services will eliminate the need for the optional secondary screenings for Mental Illness, Mental Retardation/Intellectual Disabilities, and/or Related Conditions, effective January 1, 2009.

This affects individuals wishing to access services through the Medicaid Elderly or Disabled with Consumer Directed Services Waiver (EDCD), the HIV/AIDS Waiver, and the Technology Assisted Waiver programs. Pre-admission screening providers will no longer complete the DMAS-95 MI/MR/RC Level 1 screening for waiver individuals or make referrals for the secondary screenings to the local community services boards for completion of the DMAS-101B process.

This policy change does not affect the current requirements for nursing facility admissions.

Pre-Admission Screening FAQs:

Pre-admission screening teams may also access information via the Pre-Admission Screening Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) website. The link is: http://www.dmas.virginia.gov/ltc-Pre_admin_screener.htm.

ELIGIBILITY AND CLAIMS STATUS INFORMATION

DMAS offers a web-based Internet option (ARS) to access information regarding Medicaid or FAMIS eligibility, claims status, check status, service limits, prior authorization, and pharmacy prescriber identification. The website address to use to enroll for access to this system is <http://virginia.fhsc.com>. The MediCall voice response system will provide the same information and can be accessed by calling 1-800-884-9730 or 1-800-772-9996. Both options are available at no cost to the provider.

“HELPLINE”

The “HELPLINE” is available to answer questions Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., except on state holidays. The “HELPLINE” numbers are:

1-804-786-6273	Richmond area and out-of-state long distance
1-800-552-8627	All other areas (in-state, toll-free long distance)

Please remember that the “HELPLINE” is for provider use only. Please have your Medicaid Provider Identification Number available when you call.

COPIES OF MANUALS

DMAS publishes electronic and printable copies of its Provider Manuals and Medicaid Memoranda on the DMAS website at www.dmas.virginia.gov. Refer to the “DMAS Content Menu” column on the left-hand side of the DMAS web page for the “Provider Services” link, which takes you to the “Manuals, Memos and Communications” link. This link opens up a page that contains all of the various communications to providers, including Provider Manuals and Medicaid Memoranda. The Internet is the most efficient means to receive and review current provider information. If you do not have access to the Internet or would like a paper copy of a manual, you can order it by contacting Commonwealth-Martin at 1-804-780-0076. A fee will be charged for the printing and mailing of the manuals and manual updates requested.

PROVIDER E-NEWSLETTER SIGN-UP

DMAS is pleased to inform providers about the creation of a new Provider E-Newsletter. The intent of this electronic newsletter is to inform, communicate, and share important program information with providers. Covered topics will include changes in claims processing, common problems with billing, new programs or changes in existing programs, and other information that may directly affect providers. If you would like to receive the electronic newsletter, please sign up at www.dmas.virginia.gov/pr-enewsletter.asp.

Please note that the Provider E-Newsletter is not intended to take the place of Medicaid Memos, Medicaid Provider Manuals, or any other official correspondence from DMAS.